Secrt. II-27—100,006—21-5-52.

Edn (195/) Department.

M. SERIES.

G.O. No. 1367

Dated 16.5.51

[Despatch Abstract.]

Education Teaching of progress, political principles to students in Educational institutions — Framing up syllabuses — Orders passed

GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.
ABSTRACT.

Education - Teaching of proper political principles to students in Educational institutions - Framing up syllabuses - Orders passed.

Education Department.

G.O.Ms.No.1367 Dated 16th May 1951.
Read the following:-

From the Director of Public Instruction, Roc.No.559 N/50, dated 24.2.1951.

O R D E R:

The Government have examined the suggestions contained in the Director's letter cited above for the setting up of a Special Committee for the preparation of suitable material for use in educational institutions with a view to teaching students in the principles of democracy. While they agree that instruction should be imparted to students in the principles of democratic citizenship, they do not consider that a special committee is necessary for this purpose or that material should be prepared on the lines suggested in para 3 of the Director's letter.

2. The Government observe that the subject of citizenship is one of the subjects of study under the reorganised scheme of secondary education in the schools in this State. For the purpose of this study, they consider that it is necessary to prepare and prescribe suitable syllabuses and text-books for the purposes of instruction. The Director is requested to take steps to frame courses for citizenship studies in Secondary schools and prescribe suitable text-books in the subject, in consultation with experts.

3. He is requested to take action on the above lines and to submit a report of the action taken by him in the matter.

(By Order of etc.)

K.M.Unnithan,
Secretary to Government.

To the Director of Public Instruction.

/True copy/

P Thiagarajan 6.2.56
Superintendent,
Madras Record Office, Madras.

gh.10.9.

B.T. 10/9

Copy of letter Rc.No.508-B/50, dated 22.5.1953 from the Secretary, Board of Secondary Education, Madras to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

Sub: Education - Teaching of proper political principles in Educational institutions - Framing of syllabus.

Ref: Correspondence ending with this office letter Rc.No. 508-B/50, dated 12.1.1953.

The question was considered by the Board of Secondary Education at its meeting held on 2nd May 1953, and the Board decided to communicate to Government the extent to which the principles of democracy with particular reference to which the constitution of India are sought to be inculcated in the syllabus in Social Studies as detailed below:

(i) In the lower forms, the discussion of our country's current events, daily recorded by the pupils, gives enough scope to study and understand our democracy and constitution at work in practice.

(ii) In the Third Form, the items dealing with the History of our struggle for freedom and the topic 'How we are governed today, give in outline the main features of our constitution in action.

(iii) In the Fourth Form, the items dealing with the growth of British Democracy and the American and the French Revolutions furnish the pupils with the correct back-ground to understand the spirit of real democracy in general.

(iv) In the Fifth Form the topics dealing with our Struggle for Freedom and the Grant of Self Government in stages enable the pupils to comprehend the principles involved in democracy as well as the responsibilities that go with it.

v) In the Sixth Form the items dealing with the History of our constitution and its working in its various aspects and the social activities under it like the organisation of the school parliament on the basis of our constitution give training to pupils in the theory and practice of democracy under our constitution.

Ideologies of non-democratic countries in conflict with Parliamentary democracy are adequately held up to condemnation in dealing with the rise and fall of Totalitarian countries and the triumph of democracy at the close of the Second World War. This is amply done in dealing with the topic 'The Panorama of Revolutions' in the Fourth Form stage.

The rather detailed study of the United Nations Organisation at work and India's proud part in it once in the Third Form stage and again in the Fourth Form stage serves to emphasise the general principles of a World state on democratic lines.

The syllabus as a whole has a bias of a detailed knowledge of India with particular emphasis upon the working of its present constitution as directed to the well-being and prosperity of the nation.

Under the head of 'Practical Activities, the celebration of the Birth Days of Indian National Heroes and the Independence Day and the Republic Day are sufficient enough to instil in the young minds democratic values.

The syllabus in preparation will have all the above in their entirely and in greater detail with an additional 'Our Democracy at work', so as to emphasis all the impro effected towards national welfare and the rapid advan national life.

It may also be added that training in democratic practice is given in Citizenship Training. The Board further decided that a further report might be submitted after the question is considered by the Social Studies Sub-Committee of the Board of Secondary Education.

(True copy)

Copy of letter Rc.No.508-B/50, dated 6.5.1954 from the Secretary, Board of Secondary Education, Madras-6, to the Director of Public Instruction, Madras.

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Sub: Education - Teaching of proper political principles in Educational institutions - Framing of syllabus.

Ref: Director's Proceedings Rc.No.1397-B1/53, dated 15.1.1954 and this office letter Rc.No.508-B/50, dated 8.2.1954.

I have the honour to state that the following resolution was passed by the Board of Secondary Education at its meeting held on 20.4.1954:-

The Board endorsed the view of Social Studies Sub-Committee on this question as stated below:

The Committee considered the question of laying adequate emphasis on the principles or democracy with special reference to our own system of Government . It is still of opinion that the present syllabus in Social Studies coupled with that in Citizenship training gives wide scope for adequate emphasis being laid on democratic principles and practice and that the syllabus in Social studies under preparation will contain all the present emphasis in addition to a new item 'Our Democracy at work'. It is, therefore, recommended that the Government may be informed that adequate recognition is already given to the importance of teaching the principles of democracy.

(True copy)

(Sd.) x x x
for Director of Public Instruction

/True copy/

gh.10.9.

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